



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 781**

January Session, 2009

\* SB00781PH 031109 \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THERAPEUTIC CONTACT LENSES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (f) of section 20-127 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2009*):

4 (f) [No] Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, no licensed  
5 optometrist authorized pursuant to this section to practice advanced  
6 optometric care shall dispense controlled substances under schedules  
7 II, III, IV and V or under section 21a-252, to any person unless no  
8 charge is imposed for such substances and the quantity dispensed does  
9 not exceed a seventy-two-hour supply, except if the minimum  
10 available quantity for [said agent] such substances is greater than a  
11 seventy-two-hour supply, the optometrist may dispense the minimum  
12 available quantity. A licensed optometrist authorized pursuant to this  
13 section to practice advanced optometric care may acquire, prescribe,  
14 dispense and charge for contact lenses that contain ocular agents-T, as  
15 defined in subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of this section.

16 Sec. 2. Section 20-162 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
17 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

18 The provisions of this chapter shall not be construed to apply to  
19 certified optometrists licensed to practice under the provisions of

20 chapter 380 nor to deny to physicians or surgeons particularly trained  
 21 and specializing in diseases of the eye and licensed under the  
 22 provisions of chapter 370 from the same right to fit, apply and  
 23 dispense contact lenses or other ophthalmic materials to their patients  
 24 in the course of their practice as is accorded licensed optometrists. The  
 25 provisions of this section shall not be construed to permit such  
 26 physicians or surgeons to engage in the business of either grinding  
 27 lenses or filling prescriptions for optical glasses, lenses or ophthalmic  
 28 materials unless they are licensed or certified under the provisions of  
 29 this chapter or chapter 380. The provisions of this chapter shall not be  
 30 construed to prohibit such a physician or surgeon licensed under the  
 31 provisions of chapter 370 from acquiring, prescribing, dispensing and  
 32 charging for contact lenses that contain ocular agents-T, as defined in  
 33 subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 20-127.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2009	20-127(f)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2009	20-162

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In section 1, "this section" was substituted for "section 20-127" for accuracy.

**PH**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*